

1. An implement for cleaning a surface, the implement comprising:
  - a. a handle; and
  - b. a removable cleaning pad having an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the cleaning pad has multiple widths in the z-dimension, and wherein the pad has a  $t_{1200}$  absorbent capacity of at least about 5 g/g.
2. The cleaning implement of Claim 1 wherein the lower surface of the cleaning pad comprises two discrete surfaces each of which contact the surface being cleaned.
3. The cleaning implement of Claim 1 wherein the lower surface of the cleaning pad comprises three discrete surfaces each of which contact the surface being cleaned.
4. The cleaning implement of Claim 1 wherein the cleaning pad has a  $t_{1200}$  absorbent capacity of at least about 10 g of deionized water per g of the cleaning pad.
5. The cleaning implement of Claim 4 wherein the cleaning pad has a  $t_{1200}$  absorbent capacity of at least about 20 g of deionized water per g of the cleaning pad.
6. The cleaning implement of Claim 1 wherein the removable cleaning pad comprises:
  - i. a scrubbing layer; and
  - ii. an absorbent layer.
7. The cleaning implement of Claim 6 wherein the scrubbing layer is in direct fluid communication with the absorbent layer.
8. The cleaning implement of Claim 6 wherein the cleaning pad further comprises an attachment layer, and wherein the absorbent layer is positioned between the scrubbing layer and the attachment layer.
9. The cleaning implement of Claim 8 wherein the scrubbing layer is in direct fluid communication with the absorbent layer.

10. The cleaning implement of Claim 8 wherein the attachment layer comprises a material that is essentially fluid impervious.

11. The cleaning implement of Claim 1 wherein the cleaning pad has a  
5 squeeze-out value of not more than about 40% at 0.25 psi.

12. The cleaning implement of Claim 11 wherein the cleaning pad has a squeeze-out value of not more than about 25% at 0.25 psi.

10 13. The cleaning implement of Claim 1 wherein the handle comprises a support head at one end, wherein the support head comprises a means for releasably attaching the cleaning pad to the handle.

14. The cleaning implement of Claim 13 wherein the means for releasably  
15 attaching the cleaning pad are hooks and the attachment layer comprises a material that will act as loops for mechanically attaching to the hooks.

15. The cleaning implement of Claim 14 wherein the support head has an  
20 upper surface that is pivotably attached to the handle and a lower surface that comprises the hooks for releasably attaching the cleaning pad to the support head.

16. The cleaning implement of Claim 6 wherein the absorbent layer  
25 comprises a first layer and a second layer, where the first layer is located between the scrubbing layer and the second layer and the first layer has a width smaller than the second layer.

17. The cleaning implement of Claim 16 wherein the absorbent layer  
further comprises a third layer positioned between the first layer and the scrubbing layer and the third layer has a width smaller than the first layer.

30 18. The cleaning implement of Claim 17 wherein the second layer of the absorbent layer comprises a fibrous material and the first and third layers of the absorbent layer comprises a fibrous material and superabsorbent material.

35 19. The cleaning implement of Claim 18 wherein the absorbent layer comprises at least about 15%, by total weight of the absorbent layer, of the superabsorbent material.

20. The cleaning implement of Claim 18 wherein the superabsorbent material is selected from the group consisting of superabsorbent gelling polymers and hydrophilic polymeric absorbent foams.

- 5 *Sub B1* 21. An implement for cleaning a surface, the implement comprising:
- a. a handle comprising a support head at one end; and
  - b. a removable cleaning pad having an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the cleaning pad has multiple widths in the z-dimension and wherein the cleaning pad comprises:
    - 10 i. a scrubbing layer;
    - ii. an absorbent layer in direct fluid communication with the scrubbing layer; and
    - iii. an attachment layer that is essentially fluid impervious.

22. The cleaning implement of Claim 21 wherein the support head comprises an upper surface that is attached to the handle and a lower surface that comprises hooks for releasably attaching the cleaning pad to the support head.

23. The cleaning implement of Claim 21 wherein the cleaning pad has a squeeze-out value of not more than about 25% under 0.25 psi of pressure.

24. The cleaning implement of Claim 21 wherein the absorbent layer comprises a superabsorbent material.

*B* 25. The cleaning implement of Claim <sup>21</sup>24 wherein the absorbent layer comprises at least about 15%, by total weight of the absorbent layer, of the superabsorbent material.

*B* 26. The cleaning implement of Claim <sup>21</sup>24 wherein the superabsorbent material is selected from the group consisting of superabsorbent gelling polymers and hydrophilic polymeric absorbent foams.

- Sub B2* 27. An implement for cleaning a surface, the implement comprising:
- a. a handle; and
  - b. a removable cleaning pad having an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the cleaning pad has multiple widths in the z-dimension, and wherein the cleaning pad comprises:
    - i. a scrubbing layer; and
    - ii. an absorbent layer.
- 20

28. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the lower surface of the cleaning pad comprises two discrete surfaces each of which contact the surface being cleaned.

29. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the lower surface of the cleaning pad comprises three discrete surfaces each of which contact the surface being cleaned.

30. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the cleaning pad has a t<sub>1200</sub> absorbent capacity of at least about 10 g of deionized water per g of the cleaning pad.

31. The cleaning implement of Claim 30 wherein the cleaning pad has a t<sub>1200</sub> absorbent capacity of at least about 20 g of deionized water per g of the cleaning pad.

32. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the scrubbing layer is in direct fluid communication with the absorbent layer.

33. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the cleaning pad further comprises an attachment layer, and wherein the absorbent layer is positioned between the scrubbing layer and the attachment layer.

34. The cleaning implement of Claim 33 wherein the scrubbing layer is in direct fluid communication with the absorbent layer.

35. The cleaning implement of Claim 33 wherein the attachment layer comprises a material that is essentially fluid impervious.

36. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the cleaning pad has a squeeze-out value of not more than about 40% at 0.25 psi.

37. The cleaning implement of Claim 27 wherein the absorbent layer comprises a first layer and a second layer, where the first layer is located between the scrubbing layer and the second layer and the first layer has a width smaller than the second layer.

38. The cleaning implement of Claim 37 wherein the absorbent layer further comprises a third layer positioned between the first layer and the scrubbing layer and the third layer has a width smaller than the first layer.

5 39. The cleaning implement of Claim 38 wherein the second layer of the absorbent layer comprises a fibrous material and the first and third layers of the absorbent layer comprise superabsorbent material.

10 40. The cleaning implement of Claim 39 wherein the absorbent layer comprises at least about 15%, by total weight of the absorbent layer, of the superabsorbent material.

41. A cleaning implement comprising:

- a. a handle; and
- 15 b. a removable cleaning pad having a length and a width, the pad comprising
  - i. a scrubbing layer; and
  - 20 ii. an absorbent layer comprising a first layer and a second layer, wherein the first layer is located between the scrubbing layer and the second layer and the first layer has a smaller width than the second layer.

42. The cleaning implement of Claim 41 wherein the absorbent layer further comprises a third layer positioned between the first layer and the scrubbing layer and where the third layer has a smaller width than the first layer.

43. The cleaning implement of Claim 42 wherein the second layer of the absorbent layer comprises a fibrous material and the first layer and the third layer of the absorbent layer both comprise a fibrous material and superabsorbent material.

44. The cleaning implement of Claim 43 wherein the absorbent layer comprises at least about 15%, by total weight of the absorbent layer, of the superabsorbent material.

45. The cleaning implement of Claim 44 wherein the superabsorbent material is selected from the group consisting of superabsorbent gelling polymers and hydrophilic polymeric absorbent foams.

46. The cleaning implement of Claim 41, wherein the scrubbing layer comprises, on at least one region, a material comprising a scrim and a spunlaced material.

47. A cleaning pad having an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the cleaning pad has multiple widths in the z-dimension, and wherein the cleaning pad comprises:

- a. a scrubbing layer; and
- b. an absorbent layer.

48. The cleaning pad of Claim 47 wherein the scrubbing layer is in direct fluid communication with the absorbent layer.

49. The cleaning pad of Claim 47 wherein the cleaning pad has a  $t_{1200}$  absorbent capacity of at least about 10 g of deionized water per g of the cleaning pad.

50. The cleaning pad of Claim 47 further comprising an attachment layer for mechanically attaching the cleaning pad to a handle of a cleaning implement, wherein the absorbent layer is positioned between the scrubbing layer and the attachment layer.

51. The cleaning pad of Claim 50 wherein the attachment layer is essentially fluid impervious and is suitable for being releasably attached to a handle of cleaning implement having mechanical hooks.

52. The cleaning pad of Claim 47 wherein the absorbent layer comprises a first layer and a second layer, where the first layer is located between the scrubbing layer and the second layer and the first layer has a smaller width than the second layer.

53. The cleaning pad of Claim 52 wherein the absorbent layer further comprises a third layer positioned between the first layer and the scrubbing layer and the third layer has a smaller width than the first layer.

54. The cleaning pad of Claim 53 wherein the second layer of the absorbent layer comprises a fibrous material and the first and third layers of the absorbent layer comprise superabsorbent material.

55. The cleaning pad of Claim 54 wherein the absorbent layer comprises at least about 15%, by total weight of the absorbent layer, of the superabsorbent material.

5 56. The cleaning pad of Claim 54 wherein the superabsorbent material is selected from the group consisting of superabsorbent gelling polymers and hydrophilic polymeric absorbent foams.

10 57. A cleaning pad having an upper surface and a lower surface, wherein the cleaning pad has multiple widths in the z-dimension, and wherein the pad has a t<sub>1200</sub> absorbent capacity of at least about 5 g/g.

15 58. The cleaning pad of Claim 57 wherein the cleaning pad has a t<sub>1200</sub> absorbent capacity of at least about 10 g of deionized water per g of the cleaning pad.

59. The cleaning pad of Claim 57 wherein the pad comprises:  
i. a scrubbing layer; and  
ii. an absorbent layer.

20 60. The cleaning pad of Claim 59 wherein the scrubbing layer is in direct fluid communication with the absorbent layer.

add B3